

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 EC BRU 03320 151354Z

50

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-05 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

USIE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04

SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 L-02

H-02 TAR-01 /082 W

----- 015484

O R 151324Z APR 75

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8680

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 554

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EC BRUSSELS 03320

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, EEC

SUBJECT: EC COUNCIL MEETING - CHEESE

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: SOAMES OUTLINED TO THE EC COUNCIL THE COMMISSION'S DISCUSSIONS WITH THE US. WHILE INFO WE HAVE RECEIVED IS NOT FULLY CONSISTENT, IT APPEARS THE MINISTERS ENDORSED THE COMMISSION'S ACTIONS TO DATE, BUT SEVERAL OF THEM URGED PRUDENCE TO AVOID A "CHEESE WAR." END SUMMARY.

2. THE EC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HELD A SHORT, SOMEWHAT INCONCLUSIVE, DISCUSSION IN RESTRICTED SESSION ON APRIL 14 OF THE CHEESE DISPUTE WITH THE UNITED STATES. SOAMES LED OFF BY OUTLINING THE DEVELOPMENTS IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES AND STATING THAT THE COMMISSION INTENDED TO STAND BY ITS CURRENT OFFER. SOAMES MADE IT CLEAR THAT THIS WAS MERELY A REPORT TO THE COUNCIL, BUT THAT THE COMMISSION INTENDED TO MAKE THE FINAL DECISION IN ITS MEETING ON APRIL 16 AND THAT IT WAS NOT ASKING FOR A DECISION FROM THE COUNCIL.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 EC BRU 03320 151354Z

3. ALTHOUGH OUR REPORTS ARE NOT COMPLETELY

CONSISTENT, MOST AGREE THAT THE GENERAL MOOD OF THE MEETING WAS THAT THE COMMISSION HAD SO FAR HANDLED THE PROBLEM WELL AND SHOULD PROCEED AS IT PLANNED. HOWEVER, THERE WERE SEVERAL STRONG EXPRESSIONS OF THE DANGERS FOR US/EC GENERAL RELATIONS SHOULD THIS ISSUE EXPLODE. THE DANES, THE BRITISH, AND THE DUTCH ALL EMPHASIZED THAT THE COMMISSION MUST HANDLE THE MATTER VERY CAREFULLY IN ORDER TO AVOID A CHEESE WAR AND URGED PRUDENCE. THE GERMANS ALSO COUNSELED PRUDENCE. THE FRENCH, HOWEVER, URGED THAT THE COMMISSION NOT MAKE FURTHER CONCESSIONS. LARDINOIS SAID THAT THE COMMISSION UNDERSTOOD THE NEED TO PROCEED WITH CARE AND EMPHASIZED THAT HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH SECRETARY BUTZ HAD CONVINCED HIM THAT THE COMMUNITY SHOULD NOT UNDERESTIMATE THE FIRMFNESS OF THE US POSITION.

4. WE HAVE RECEIVED ONE REPORT SOMEWHAT AT VARIANCE WITH THE ABOVE. FREDDIE KEARNS OF THE UK DELEGATION TOLD A MISSION OFFICER THAT THE DOMINANT VIEW IN THE MEETING WAS THAT IT WAS RIDICULOUS TO GET INVOLVED WITH A TRADE WAR FOR 4,000 TONS OF CHEESE AND THAT THE COUNCIL HAD INDICATED TO SOAMES THE NEED TO AVOID THIS POSSIBILITY IF SOMETHING REASONABLE COULD BE WORKED OUT. KEARNS SAID THAT LARDINOIS HAD IN FACT BEEN ABSENT FROM A PORTIION OF TODAY'S AGRICULTURAL COUNCIL MEETING IN ORDER TO CONFER WITH SOAMES, WHO IS LEAVING FOR MEXICO, ABOUT WHAT THE COMMISSION SHOULD DECIDE ON WEDNESDAY. MYERSON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CHEESE, FOREIGN TRADE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ECBRU03320
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750131-0195
From: EC BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750447/aaaabrmf.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <21 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EC COUNCIL MEETING - CHEESE
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, US, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006